

CLAIMS

1. A cell analysis and sorting apparatus comprising:

a channel into which a fluid containing samples is introduced, the samples being introduced by a laminar flow into a sample-separating portion;

a pair of fluid passages arranged symmetrically on both sides of the channel, a pair of streams of fluid that are made to meet in the sample-separating portion being introduced into the fluid passages;

means for introducing an external force to the sample-separating portion only when an observed sample is discharged out of the sample-separating portion;

a sample recovery channel disposed downstream of the channel into which the samples are introduced such that the fluid containing a sample selected from the sample-selecting portion flows out in a laminar flow; and

a pair of fluid passages which are arranged symmetrically on both sides of the sample recovery channel and into which unwanted samples are discharged.

2. The cell analysis and sorting apparatus of claim 1, wherein there is provided means capable of making at least one stereoscopic microscope image and one fluorescent microscope image correspond to each other at the same time by referring to their mutual positional relationship when the sample is observed with an optical microscope.

3. The cell analysis and sorting apparatus of claim 1, wherein there is provided means making use of a flow produced by gravity according to differences in height between introduced liquid drops to impart a flow velocity to the fluid.